

DISAPPROVAL OF MOST-FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT FOR CHINA

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for House Joint Resolution 79, a bill to disapprove most-favored-nation [MFN] trade status for China. House Joint Resolution 79 is targeted to send a strong message to the Chinese Government that continues suppression of human rights, flaunting of international agreements on nuclear nonproliferation, and engaging in unfair trade practices cannot be tolerated, ignored, or rewarded.

Denying most-favored-nation status for China is a reasonable response to the continuing controversy over trade and human rights policy with regard to China. It is absolutely imperative that the House of Representatives and the United States Government not reward the Chinese regime which brutally massacred pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square. Granting most-favored-nation status for all Chinese products rewards the Chinese regime for its intransigence on human rights, and its refusal to engage in fair trade.

Mr. Speaker, despite the arguments of those who support unfettered trade with China, the fact remains that trade and human rights are inextricably linked. A nation that suppresses its citizens' human rights also suppresses their wages. This, in turn, leads to an unnatural advantage in trade, which adversely impacts American businesses and workers, and causes the loss of American jobs.

In fact, the United States receives more than 30 percent of China's exports, accounting for a significant portion of the Chinese GDP. While on the other hand, less than 2 percent of American exports go to China. China's extensive use of prison and child labor over the past decade has resulted in a staggering 1,000 percent increase in the China-United States trade deficit. This imbalance is projected to top \$40 billion this year.

The United States trade deficit with China is second only to our trade deficit with Japan. Yet, despite the freedom we grant to Chinese imports to the United States, China does not grant most-favored-nation status to United States goods, and continues to bar certain United States goods from the Chinese market. For those who advocate free trade, it seems rather illogical and inconsistent to grant free access to our market to a country which denies free access to their market for our goods.

Most-favored-nation status is perhaps the most effective tool for influencing the Chinese Government to improve their record on human rights. If the United States continues to grant most-favored-nation status to Chinese goods, without requiring improvements in human rights, there is no incentive for the Chinese regime to alter their policies.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to insist that the United States stand up for the principles of human rights, and for the freedom of the Chinese people. Vote for House Joint Resolution 79 and send a clear, unmistakable message to the dictators in Beijing, and your constituents, that you be-

lieve in freedom and democracy for people all over the world.

TRIBUTE TO MARK S. LEVENSON

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Mark S. Levenson of Clifton, NJ.

Mark was born and raised in Boston, MA and graduated from Maimonides Day School. He is a cum laude graduate of Brandeis University where he majored in economics and political science and was a recipient of the William Mazur Scholarship. During and after college, Mark worked in Washington, DC, completing a tenure with Congressman Robert F. Drinan; the late Speaker of the House, Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr.; Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY's Energy subcommittee of the Joint Economic Committee; and the Urban Institute think tank.

Mark received his J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1982 where he served as research editor on the "Annual Survey of American Law." He has been a practicing attorney in New York for the last 15 years, specializing in domestic and international real estate transactions and corporate advisory matters. Mark has worked on major projects in the United Kingdom, India, the Czech Republic, Canada, Australia, Latin America, and throughout the United States. He is currently a partner with the firm of Kronish, Lieb, Weiner and Hellman, L.L.P. in New York City and is a member of the board of directors of the New York Chapter of the National Association of Corporate Real Estate Executives and the American Bar Association's Real Estate, Probate and Trust Law Section's Environmental Aspects of Corporation Subcommittee.

Mark is the honorary president of Congregation Adas Israel Synagogue having served as president for the previous 3 years. He is recording secretary of the Jewish Federation of Greater Clifton-Passaic and is a member of the executive committee; he chairs the Federation's young leadership development program and serves on the YM-YWHA Program Services Committee. Mark also is a member of the executive committee of the New York Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League. He was a recipient of the 1994 Young Leadership Award of the Federation and has received several other awards for his charitable and volunteer work.

Mark has always been involved in giving back to the community. Prior to moving to the Passaic-Clifton area, Mark served as treasurer and then vice-president of the Young Israel of the West Side, New York, as co-chair of the UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Young Lawyer's Division, and as founding chair of the UJA Lawyer's Division Specialty Task Force Subcommittee on Corporations. He was also a member of the UJA Lawyer's Division Steering Committee.

Mark is a pro bono arbitrator in the New York City Civil Court System and serves on the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, Mediation Panel. He is married to Eta Krasna Levenson. Professionally, Eta is assistant director of Yachad/The National

Council for the Jewish Disabled, but she also serves as vice-president for education of Congregation Adas Israel, chair of the Jewish Family Services Advisory Council, director of the Hand-In-Hand charitable organization, and as trustee of the Federation. Mark and Eta are the proud parents of Eric, Hadassa, and Jessica.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Mark's family and friends, and the congregation of Adas Israel in recognizing Mark S. Levenson's outstanding and invaluable service to the community.

A TRIBUTE TO DONALD "CY" WALSH ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTING IN RIVERHEAD

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the heroes of our Long Island community. Donald "Cy" Walsh has served the Riverhead Fire Department with 50 years of devotion and selflessness on behalf of his neighbors. This small-town hero and World War II veteran has volunteered his time, energy, and leadership to the Riverhead, and community service has been the recurring theme of his life. He will be honored for that lifetime of service by the Riverhead Volunteer Firemen's Association on July 8, 1997.

Cy Walsh joined the Riverhead Fire Department in 1947, where he started as a volunteer member of Fire Police Patrol #1. His hard work, dedication, and perseverance in response to midnight calls and harrowing blazes were rewarded in 1953, when he was elected as the captain of his patrol. By 1955, "Cy" Walsh was quickly moving up the ladder of the Riverhead Fire Department having been elected by his peers as third, second, and first assistant chief. In 1962, Cy's many years of committed volunteerism culminated with his election to chief of the Riverhead Fire Department.

An outstanding fire chief, Cy's work on behalf of Riverhead and the firefighters of Suffolk County was far from complete. He served as sergeant-at-arms of the Riverhead Fireman's Association for 5 years and has been chaplain since 1970. He also served on the Southampton-East Hampton-Shelter Island Chief Council, including a year as president in 1970, and as president of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association. Cy reached out from Long Island's east end and lent his vision and enthusiasm to the people of New York State, serving with the New York State Firemen's Association, and as the chairman of the Fire Police Committee. His many positions of leadership in the firefighting community are a sign of the high esteem that Cy's peers hold him in.

At the age of 85, Cy is still serving the town of Riverhead, as chaplain of the North Fork Volunteer Firemen's Association and as one of the chaplains of the Riverhead Volunteer Firemen's Association. As his 50-year volunteer career shows, Cy Walsh epitomizes the ideals of service and leadership that America was built on. He has touched many lives in the past 50 years—in meeting rooms and firehouses and in the shops and restaurants of